waive farm loans upto Rs. 10,000 advanced by the cooperative banks to small and marginal farmers; and

(b) if so, whether Central Government will extend 50 per cent of subsidy on this count?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have reported that they do not have information about the decision taken by Government of Andhra Pradesh to waive farm loans upto Rs. 10,000/-advanced by the Co-operative Banks to small and marginal Farmers. Government of India has announced a scheme for providing debt relief to farmers, artisans and weavers who had taken loans upto Rs. 10,000/-from various banks, including cooperatives. Government of India will bear the full responsibility of debt relief in respect of loans taken from public sector banks and Regional Rural Banks. In order to assist the State Governments, the Central Government will bear 50 per cent of the burden of relief on loans provided by State Cooperative Banks (SCBs) and State Land Development Banks (SLDBs).

IFCI Direction to Modis to appoint Directors/Managing Directors

473. SHRI SURENDER SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Industrial Finance Corporation of India has on behalf of all public financial institutions directed certain companies of Modis to appoint Managing and other Directors;

(b) if so, what is the basis on which the direction or suggestion has been made; and

(c) what are the names of the Directors appointed in pursuance thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) The Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) and other all-India Financial Institutions normally stipulate conditions regarding broad-basing of the Board of Directors and strengthening management set up wherever felt necessary while sanctioning financial assistance,

IFCI on its own and on behalf of other participating institutions has desired for strengthening management set up in certain companies of Modis by appointing Managing Director/ whole time Directors, keeping in view the large stake of institutions, share-holding of the institutions and size and magnitude of the project, in terms of rights available under the respective loan agreements.

In respect of Modi Rubber Ltd. (MRL) institutional representation on the Board was increased from 3—6 Directors and Shri Vaidyanathan, a whole time Finance Director has been appointed. Names of the institutional nominee Directors are S/ Shri M. Ramaswamy, A. A. Saiyid, S. K. Rishi, S. Shankar, J. C. Malhotra and M. K. Venkateshan.

Stalling the transfer of officials in Haryana by Election Commission

474. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Election Commission has taken any action to stall the transfer of officials by Haryana Government from Meham, Darba Kalan and Ambala cantonment ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) The Election Commission made an announcement of bye-elections in the abovementioned three Assembly Constituencies on 6th April, 1990 and accordingly the Model Code of Conduct came into force with immediate effect. According to the information available with the Election Commission, no transfer of officers connected with these bye-elections has been made by the Haryana Government since that date.

Official Rates of Rouble and Dollar Vis-a-Vis-Indian Rupee

475. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the official rate of the Russian Rouble vis-a-vis the Indian rupee;

(b) what is the official rate of the US Dollar vis-a-vis the Indian rupee;

(c) whether it is a fact that a person can officially change one US Dollar for six Roubles in the Soviet Union; and

(d) how does this disparity affect India's trade with USSR?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) As on 4-5-1990, Rouble 1 =Rs. 19.9169.

(b) As on 4-5-1990, US $ 1= Rs. 17.395.

(c) Yes, Sir. However, this rate is applicable to tourists and non-commercial transactions; not for trade and commercial transactions.

(d) There is no evidence to suggest that the disparity has a direct impact on India's trade with the USSR.

Appointment of Deputy Director (FAC) Varanasi in the Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts)

476. SHRI T. R. BALU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint regarding appointment of Deputy Director (FAC) Varanasi in the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts);

(b) whether some Members of Parliament and some former Members have also written to former Ministers-incharge of DOP and Textiles and to Chairman, UPSC in this regard, if so, what are the dates on which those references were received; and

(c) what action Government have taken so far any propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Three Members/ Former Members of Parliament had written to the then Minister incharge of DOP and Chairman, UPSC and the same were received in the office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) on 8-11-89, 6-10-89 and 30-11-89 respectively.

(c) The UPSC has been requested to fill up the post of Deputy